

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A surgical wound closure / transfer marking device comprising:

a substrate having a proximal surface, a distal surface and markings;

an adhesive layer disposed on the proximal surface of substrate and having a first portion and a second portion;~~and~~

a primary release sheet having a proximal surface, a distal surface, a first portion, a second portion and markings on the proximal surface of the second portion of the primary release sheet, where the first and second portions are disposed releasably adherently to the first and second portions, respectively, of adhesive layer and the markings on the proximal surface of the second portion of the primary release sheet are substantially aligned with the markings on the substrate; and

a secondary release sheet being disposed on the proximal surface of the primary release sheet.

Claim 2. (Original) The surgical wound closure / transfer marking device of claim 1, where the first and second portions of the primary release sheet are detachable from each other.

Claim 3. (Cancelled)

Claim 4. (Original) The surgical wound closure / transfer marking device of claim 1, where the substrate, adhesive layer and primary release sheet are joined in a book-like arrangement.

Claim 5. (Original) The surgical wound closure / transfer marking device of claim 4, wherein the substrate and the adhesive layer are size to substantially conform to each other.

Claim 6. (Original) The surgical wound closure / transfer marking device of claim 1, wherein the substrate is formed from a material selected from the group consisting of polyurethane, polyolefins, copolyesters and polyether polyamides.

Claim 7. (Original) The surgical wound closure / transfer marking device of claim 1, wherein the adhesive layer is formed from an adhesive material selected from the group consisting of acrylic copolymer, polyisobutylene, polyurethane, polymeric silicone and rubber-based hotmelts.

Claim 8. (Original) The surgical wound closure / transfer marking device of claim 1, wherein the adhesive layer or substrate comprises a sufficient quantity of an antimicrobial agent to substantially inhibit the growth of microorganisms on the skin of the patient adjacent said adhesive.

Claim 9. (Original) The surgical wound closure / transfer marking device of claim 8, wherein said antimicrobial agent is a compound selected from the group consisting of 2,4,4'-trichloro-2'-hydroxydiphenyl ether, benzalkonium chloride, silver sulfadiazine and povidone iodine.

Claim 10. (Original) A surgical procedure comprising the steps of:

providing a surgical wound closure / transfer marking device comprising a substrate having a proximal surface, a distal surface and markings; an adhesive layer disposed on the proximal surface of substrate and having a first portion and a second portion; and a primary release sheet having a proximal surface, a distal surface, a first portion, a second portion and markings on the proximal surface of the second portion of the primary release sheet, where the first and second portions are disposed releasably adherently to the first and second portions, respectively, of adhesive layer and the markings on the proximal surface of the second portion of the primary release sheet are substantially aligned with the markings on the substrate;

removing the first portion of primary release sheet to expose the first portion of the adhesive layer;

placing the first portion of the adhesive layer on the skin of a patient;

contacting the proximal surface of the second portion of the primary release sheet with the skin in the area where a surgical incision is planned to transfer the markings from the proximal surface of the second portion of the primary release sheet onto the skin;

bending the substrate, the second portion of the adhesive layer and the second portion of primary release sheet over that portion of the device that is adhered to the skin;

making the surgical incision in skin of the patient and performing a surgical procedure;

removing the second portion of the primary release sheet to expose the second portion of the adhesive layer;

aligning the markings on the substrate with the markings on the skin; and

contacting the second portion of the adhesive layer with the skin to close the surgical incision thereby leaving the substrate and the adhesive layer covering the surgical incision.